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TAFT PLACED IN PERILOUS POSITION BY BILL REVISING WOOL TARIFF; VETO SERIOUS MOVE

Had Already Declared Existing Schedule "Indefensible", but Didn't Like New Combine

By C. S. ALBERT

(Special Star-Bulletin Correspondence)

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 2—

All the perils, difficulties and uncertainties of the coming National campaign were temporarily forgotten by President Taft and his advisers when he became confronted with the imminent necessity for taking a decisive stand regarding revision of the wool schedule in the Payne-Aldrich tariff act. The crisis arose when the Senate, unexpectedly and without warning, passed the La Follette wool bill as a substitute for the House measure. It immediately took precedence as a matter of the gravest concern that has waited upon the President since his assumption of office.

The La Follette bill adopted is identical with that passed by the Senate July 27, 1911. It went through conference and was sent to the President. He vetoed it on the ground that the Tariff Board had not furnished information on which to base a scientific revision of Schedule K. It was then considered a good but unpopular political move.

Since that time the Tariff Board submitted the most elaborate and detailed report on the wool industry and the manufacture of the raw material. The La Follette bill is claimed to exactly carry out the suggestions given by the report and the figures follow the natural inference drawn from the data supplied. The President is thus prevented from again vetoing the measure for the reason that the Tariff Board has not yet reported, or that it conflicts with the data given by that body.

President Taft declared the existing schedule of the Payne-Aldrich bill, covering wool and woolen manufactures, as absolutely indefensible.

In refusing to approve the moderate reductions carried by the La Follette bill he retracted his own utterances and stultified his personal judgment. Approval of the measure would mean the recognition of a hybrid bill formulated and made effective by a coalition of Democrats and Progressive Republicans and vigorously opposed by the Regular Republicans. Such a crucial proposition has not been placed before the President during his incumbency.

The sagging of the Bull Moose convention, August 5, proved a withering disappointment to Col. Roosevelt. He had figured on a great popular uprising of the people and such an invasion of Chicago as would become memorable. Interest in the gathering began to dwindle when the Chicago hotel records, ten days before the convention indicated that but 203 room reservations had been made. This was the most meager record ever shown in the city of conventions. An immediate effort was started to segregate delegations and hordes of boomers, but this did not result in materially augmenting the attendance. The word "frost" was plainly stamped on the Bull Moose assemblage long before the date fixed for the selection of a third party candidate.

To investigate the objections which have been raised to the confirmation by the Senate of the promotion of Brig. Gen. Witherspoon and of Brig. Gen. Clarence R. Edwards, Chairman of the Senate committee on military affairs, has appointed a subcommittee composed of Senators Bristow of Kansas, Sanders of Tennessee and Johnston of Alabama.

At a meeting of the full committee on military affairs the subcommittee reported that it desired plenty of time to make a careful investigation of qualifications of the two men and the objections raised against their nominations.

It has been urged that the officers have not had sufficient field service but have been occupying chairs in the

War Department while other officers have been doing the active service work in the field.

Senator Bristow, who is on the subcommittee, is known to be favorable to the promotion of Brig. Gen. Frederick Funston, the ranking brigadier general, instead of Brig. Gen. Witherspoon.

With still another session of the Sixty-second Congress to be held, the number of bills and resolutions already introduced at this Congress has surpassed all previous records. By March 4, 1912, when the Sixty-second Congress ends, it is confidently expected that a record will have been made which will stand for many years.

There have been 25,934 bills introduced in the House thus far and 7349 in the Senate. In the two houses combined there have been introduced 1002 single resolutions, requiring the action of a single house; 464 joint resolutions, and 73 concurrent resolutions. The Senate has printed 88 public documents and 962 reports on bills; the House, 878 documents and 1052 reports.

The extent to which Congress is swamped with measures never enacted into law is indicated by the fact that up to Wednesday, when these figures were compiled, only 235 public and private laws, 43 public resolutions and 1 private resolution had been passed.

Treasury Department officials are not inclined to say they believe the report that William Loeb, Jr., collector of customs at New York, and former secretary to President Roosevelt, is about to resign his job to join Col. Roosevelt's new party.

Reports of impending changes in the cabinet continue. Secretary Nagel is the latest mentioned. The secretary has told friends he would not serve after March 4 should Mr. Taft be re-elected, and so has Attorney General Wickersham. This is believed to be the basis for the most recent report that they are to retire.

REPUBLICANS TO STAND TOGETHER ON SUGAR BILL

Senator Lodge Declares Trust Alone Wants the Duty on Sugar Abolished

WASHINGTON, July 27.—An agreement between regular and progressive Republicans was reached today for the passage of a sugar tariff bill fixing a duty of \$1.60 per 100 pounds in place of the present rate of \$1.82. The pact, which it was believed would hold throughout the day, provided that the progressives should stand with the regular Republicans, deserting their previous alliance with the Democrats.

A bitter attack by Senator Lodge upon American cane sugar refiners opened the sugar debate. He charged the refiners with attempting to strike down their competitors, the beet sugar producers, by fighting for free or reduced duties on raw sugar.

Mr. Lodge introduced a substitute bill he had reported from the finance committee, which would abolish the Dutch standard test and the tariff differentials of the present law.

Senator Lodge declared that one year after abolishing sugar duties the domestic industry would be dead and the consumer would be paying exorbitant prices.

"So far as I have been able to learn," said Senator Lodge, "the movement for free sugar outside of Congress has come from one of the three great sugar refiners of the country, and from that source alone. The

American Sugar Refining Company and the Arbuckles have not appeared in this campaign for free sugar, but the Federal Company, belonging to the Spreckels interests, has spent money, employed agents and lobbyists, distributed broadcast through the country circulars filled with statements more or less false and urged the removal of the duties on sugar.

The so-called independent refiners who are denouncing the present duties on sugar claim they are fighting a trust, although, aside from whatever interest it may have in the domestic industry, the interests of the trust are identical with all other refiners.

Senator Lodge appealed to Congress in the name of humanity not to strike down the sugar industry of Louisiana, while the sugar growers of that State already were staggering beneath the blow received from the terrible flood of the Mississippi.

An amendment by Senator Bristow was at once accepted by Senator Lodge and adopted without a vote emphasizing the agreement between the regulars and progressives. The amendment was to reduce the \$1.82 rate of the Lodge bill to \$1.60.

Senator Bristow said that with this change the Lodge bill was acceptable to him.

BORN.

NAINOA—At Port Blakely, Wash., to Mr. and Mrs. S. K. Nainoa, a son.

There never was a man as important as a bride expects her husband to be.

Anyway, a spinster can pretend that she would rather be her own boss.

GOV. WILSON IS THIRD NEW JERSEY MAN TO RUN FOR PRESIDENCY

Winfield Scott and George B. McClellan Nominated for Office but Both Were Defeated at the Polls

WASHINGTON, July 28.—Woodrow Wilson is the third citizen of New Jersey to receive the presidential nomination. Winfield Scott received it in 1852 as a Whig against Franklin Pierce. George B. McClellan received it in 1864 as a Democrat against Lincoln.

Garret A. Hobart, Vice-President during the first McKinley administration, was the only citizen of New Jersey to be elected to that office. Theodore Frelinghuysen was nominated for Vice-President on the Whig ticket in 1844, William L. Dayton on the Republican ticket in 1856 and Joel Parker on the Labor Reform ticket in 1872.

New Jersey, it is thus seen, is in no position to dispute with Virginia or Ohio the right to the title "Mother of Presidents." An inspection of the record shows that New York, Ohio and Virginia are tied as to the number of Presidents each has given the republic. Here is the record:

Virginia, five presidents; Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe and Tyler, who served an aggregate of 36 years.

New York, five presidents: Van Buren, Fillmore, Arthur, Cleveland and Roosevelt, who served an aggregate of 35 years.

Ohio, five presidents: William Henry Harrison, Hayes, Garfield, McKinley and Taft, who will have served an aggregate of 13 years 1 month at the end of President Taft's present term.

Tennessee has had three presidents: Jackson, Polk and Johnson, who served for 15 years and 9 months.

Massachusetts has had two presidents: John Adams and John Quincy Adams, who served eight years.

Illinois has had two presidents: Lincoln and Grant, who served 12 years and 1 month.

The following States have had one President each: Louisiana, Taylor, one year; New Hampshire, Pierce, four years; Pennsylvania, Buchanan, four years; Indiana, Benjamin Harrison, four years.

Of Virginia's five Presidents, four were elected as such, Tyler serving out Harrison's term. All of Ohio's Presidents were elected as such, but only three of New York's. Ohio has thus had more elected Presidents than any other State. All of Virginia's Presidents, except Tyler, were chosen for two terms. But one of the Ohio Presidents was re-elected, McKinley, unless Taft should prove to be the second; and but one from New York.

New York has furnished 10 Vice-Presidents, five of whom became President, two by election and three by succession. Massachusetts has furnished three Vice-Presidents, Virginia two, Indiana three, Kentucky two and South Carolina, Pennsylvania, Alabama, Maine, Tennessee, Illinois and New Jersey one each.

KAYING COAL FIELDS OF CHINA

That there is a considerable quantity of coal in the hills in Kaying prefecture in this district has been known to the natives for many years. However, beyond a few surface workings, no attempt has been made to mine.

It is now reported in the native pa-

pers that some time since certain of the gentry and merchants of Paokan, Kaying, filed an application to work these mines in a modern manner. The head of the prefectural industrial bureau was instructed by the executive to make a "survey" by which is meant apparently a surface survey to determine the ownership of the land on which the workings would be located, but he returned from the fields without accomplishing anything beyond compiling a list of men, presumably landholders, who objected to the proposed workings. He then notified these obstructionists that he had appointed two deputies to make the survey, and that it would be carried out April 29th. The deputies, however, made the survey on the 28th, without giving the obstructionists a chance to appear. This makes it doubtful if any progress can be made with this scheme in the face of local opposition.

The principal commercial difficulty in working these mines is in the lack of adequate transportation facilities. At present water transport for small boats drawing not over eighteen inches is available to within some few miles of the hills. The district does not lie far, however, from the proposed route of the Canton-Hankow trunk line, and should this undertaking mature a short spur line might be built to the fields.—Consular Report.

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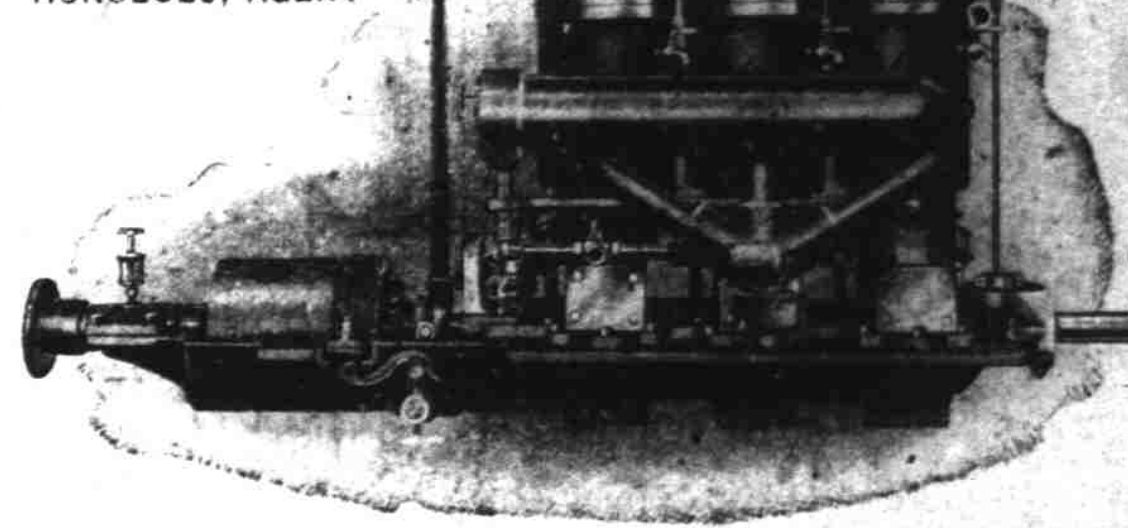
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